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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/525,205	02/22/2005	Atsuhiko Saito	HOK-0258	7664

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EXAMINER

RIGGLEMAN, JASON PAUL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1792

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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10/18/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/525,205

Applicant(s)

SAITO ET AL.

Examiner

Jason P. Riggelman

Art Unit

1792

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 August 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 8 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 February 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims

1. Applicant's reply filed on 8/1/2007 is acknowledged. Current pending claims are 1-8. Claims 1 and 8 are amended.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-7 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Note: the drawing objections are withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-2 and 4-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mosami et al. (JP Patent Publication No. 57-145684) in view of Braun (US Patent No. 5711328).
5. Mosami et al. teaches an electric shaver having a height and an operator head at the top end. The device has an externally controllable electric circuit for charging the apparatus, Fig. 4. The housing 4 holds the device in an inverted manner. There is a basin (recess 5) formed in the housing for accommodating the cleaning head. A tank (dust bag) is provided on the housing for holding waste. The housing is formed with a signal transmitting means (contacts). The shaver has a signal receiving means which

comes into electrical interconnection with the signal transmitting means. The signal receiving means is disposed intermediate of the height of the apparatus and the signal transmitting means is disposed intermediate of the height of the housing. The signal receiving means comprises terminal pads formed on an exterior of the apparatus casing. The signal transmitting means comprises a set of contacts exposed on an exterior of the housing for pressed contact with the terminal pads. The housing is provided with holding means (dimension of the recess) to maintain electrical interconnection. The contacts are spring loaded, Fig. 4, give a bias to urge the signal transmitting means towards the signal receiving means (both pushing and pulling the apparatus towards the housing).

6. Mosami et al. does not teach the cleaning means (tank/cleaning liquid supplying means/controller/external control circuit); however, Braun teaches a cleaning system for an electric shaver. Braun teaches a shaver cleaning system 5 comprising a hair removing apparatus (shaver 1) and a cleaning device 5. The apparatus has an externally controllable electric circuit (see reed switch 75) for driving the operator head with signal receiving/transmitting means at intermediate height of the device. A housing basin (cradle structure 7) for accommodating the operator head and a tank (fluid container 6) provided on the housing to contain a volume of a cleaning liquid. There is a supplying means (pump 23) for supplying the cleaning fluid from the tank to the basin for cleaning the operator head; a controller for activating said supplying means. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify

Mosami et al. with Braun to create a compact electric shaver which is controllably cleaned to achieve the expected result.

7. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mosami et al. (JP Patent Publication No. 57-145684) in view of Braun (US Patent No. 5711328) and Toshiaki (Japanese Patent No. 5234763).

8. Mosami et al. teaches an electric shaver having a height and an operator head at the top end. The device has an externally controllable electric circuit for charging the apparatus, Fig. 4. The housing 4 holds the device in an inverted manner. There is a basin (recess 5) formed in the housing for accommodating the cleaning head. A tank (dust bag) is provided on the housing for holding waste. A controller is present for activating the electric signal. The housing is formed with a signal transmitting means (contacts). The shaver has a signal receiving means which comes into electrical interconnection with the signal transmitting means. The signal receiving means is disposed intermediate of the height of the apparatus and the signal transmitting means is disposed intermediate of the height of the housing. The electric signal operates the operator head of the electric shaver as well as charges the electric shaver. The signal receiving means comprises terminal pads formed on an exterior of the apparatus casing. The signal transmitting means comprises a set of contacts exposed on an exterior of the housing for pressed contact with the terminal pads. The housing is provided with holding means (dimension of the recess) to maintain electrical interconnection. The contacts are spring loaded, Fig. 4, give a bias to urge the signal

transmitting means towards the signal receiving means (both pushing and pulling the apparatus towards the housing).

9. Mosami et al. does not teach the cleaning means (tank/cleaning liquid supplying means/controller); however, Braun teaches a cleaning system for an electric shaver.

Braun teaches a shaver cleaning system 5 comprising a hair removing apparatus (shaver 1) and a cleaning device 5. A housing basin (cradle structure 7) for accommodating the operator head and a tank (fluid container 6) provided on the housing to contain a volume of a cleaning liquid. The apparatus has an externally controllable electric circuit (see reed switch 75) for driving the operator head with signal receiving/transmitting means at intermediate height of the device. There is a supplying means (pump 23) for supplying the cleaning fluid from the tank to the basin for cleaning the operator head; a controller for activating said supplying means. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Mosami et al. with Braun to create a compact electric shaver which is cleaned to achieve the expected result.

10. Mosami, as modified by Braun, does not teach an electromagnetic induction power charging system; however, Toshiaki teaches the use of housing primary winding (primary coil 8) which transmits an electromagnetic signal to the shaver secondary winding (secondary coil 3) to charge/power the shaving device, Figs. 3 & 5. Toshiaki teaches the location of the windings in the intermediate portion of the shaver – Fig. 3. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Mosami et al., as modified by Braun, with Toshiaki to create a re-chargeable

electric shaver with a contactless electrical connection – eliminating clogs/dirt buildup in the small crevices/protrusions of such a connection.

Allowable Subject Matter

11. Claim 8 is allowed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason P. Riggleman whose telephone number is 571-272-5935. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Barr can be reached on 571-272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jason P Riggleman
Examiner
Art Unit 1746


MICHAEL BARR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER